

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 16147 222123Z

67

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15

STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 FEA-01 /095 W
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R 221405Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9100

INFO USERDA HQ GERMANTOWN

USERDA HQ WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 16147

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, EG, US

SUBJ: NUCLEAR POWER STATION - WESTINGHOUSE NEGOTIATIONS

1. BOB HUGHES, WESTINGHOUSE POWER SYSTEMS REP CALLED ON EMBOFF NOVEMBER 16 TO DISCUSS CODEL RIBICOFF/BAKER VISIT AND TO GIVE STATUS REPORT ON WESTINGHOUSE NEGOTIATIONS. ACCORDING TO HUGHES, WESTINGHOUSE IS DELIBERATELY PROCEEDING SLOWLY WITH CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS PENDING COMPLETION OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT. PROBLEMS ARE BEING WORKED OUT AT LOW LEVELS WITHOUT RECOURSE TO U/S MAHER ABAZA OR MINISTER SULTAN AND, WHILE THIS IS LENGTHY PROCESS, HUGHES SEES NO PURPOSE IN SPEEDING IT UP.

2. HUGHES ALSO ASKED AGAIN ABOUT POSSIBILITY FINANCING PLANT WITH EXIM OR AID SUPPORT. EMBOFF SAID THAT HE DID NOT THINK PREVIOUS DISINCLINATION OF BOTH ORGANIZATIONS TO UNDERTAKE FINANCING OF NUCLEAR PROJECT HAD CHANGED, BUT ADVISED HUGHES TO TAKE MATTER UP WHEN NEXT IN WASHINGTON.

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 16147 222123Z

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE HEARD SMALL TALK LATELY TO EFFECT

THAT ISRAELIS ASKED RECENTLY VISITING CONGRESSIONAL
GROUPS ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF EXIM FINANCING FOR THEIR
NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS. EGYPTIANS, WISELY OR NOT, SEEM
TO BELIEVE THAT IF ISRAEL GETS FINANCING SO WILL THEY,
PRIMARILY BECAUSE OTHER ASPECTS OF AGREEMENTS SEEM TO
BE MOVING IN TANDEM. WE ARE NATURALLY TRYING TO
DAMPEN ANY SPECULATION ON USG FINANCING FOR NUCLEAR
PROJECTS.
EILTS

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